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## TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

25

Application Number

10/678,403 (1004)

Filing Date

October 3, 2003

First Named Inventor

Paul J. Hindrichs

Art Unit

3731

Examiner Name

Timothy J. Neal

Attorney Docket Number

293/053

### ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Fee Transmittal Form
- ☐ Fee Attached
- ☒ Amendment/Reply (in duplicate)
- ☐ After Final
- ☐ Affidavits/declaration(s)
- ☐ Extension of Time Request
- ☐ Express Abandonment Request
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement

- ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)
- ☐ Reply to Missing Parts/  
Incomplete Application
- ☐ Reply to Missing Parts  
under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53

- ☐ Drawing(s)
- ☐ Licensing-related Papers
- ☐ Petition
- ☐ Petition to Convert to a  
Provisional Application
- ☐ Power of Attorney, Revocation  
Change of Correspondence Address
- ☐ Terminal Disclaimer
- ☐ Request for Refund
- ☐ CD, Number of CD(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Landscape Table on CD

- ☐ After Allowance Communication to TC
- ☐ Appeal Communication to Board  
of Appeals and Interferences
- ☐ Appeal Communication to TC  
(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
- ☐ Proprietary Information
- ☐ Status Letter
- ☒ Other Enclosure(s) (please identify  
below):  
return postcard.

#### Remarks

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fee(s) that may be due under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 06-1075 (Order No. 000293.0053). A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

### SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name

Customer No. 1473

Signature

Printed name

Jeffrey C. Aldridge

Date

January 18, 2008

Reg. No.

51,390

### CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAIL

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January 18, 2008

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Paul J. Hindrichs et al.  
Application No. : 10/678,403 Confirmation No.: 1004  
Filed : October 3, 2003  
For : SELF-EXPANDING EXTERIOR CONNECTORS FOR CREATING  
ANASTOMOSES TO SMALL-DIAMETER VESSELS AND  
METHODS OF USE  
Group Art Unit : 3731  
Examiner : Timothy J. Neal

Mail Stop AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed July 25, 2007,  
please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of  
claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 9 of this paper.